**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1.    (Currently Amended) A     target     detection     system comprising:

a radar;

an image acquisition unit; and

a   processing   unit   for   specifying   an   area   of   image recognition based on the data output from said radar, extracting the edge data from ~~and processing~~ the image data output from said image acquisition unit only for said specified area and detecting a target based on said edge data.


2.    (Currently Amended) A     target     detection     system comprising:

a radar for scanning a specified area and outputting ~~signal of~~ a power signal corresponding to an object scanned;

an image acquisition unit for acquiring an image of said specified area; and

a   processing   unit   for   specifying   an   area   of   image recognition based on the power ~~of the~~ signal output from said radar, extracting the edge data from the image data output from said image acquisition unit only for said specified area, and detecting a target based on said edge data.

3.    (Original)    A target detection system according to claim 2,

wherein said processing unit specifies an area having said power not less than a predetermined level as said image recognition area.

4.    (Withdrawn)    A target detection system according to claim 2,

wherein said processing unit specifies an area having said power between a first predetermined level and a second predetermined level as said image recognition area.

5.    (Withdrawn)    A target detection system according to claim 2,

wherein, in the case where the level of said power has a plurality of peaks, said processing unit specifies an area constituting a valley between the peaks as said image recognition area.

6.    (Withdrawn)    A target detection system according to claim 2,

wherein said processing specifies as said image recognition area an area having said power not less than a predetermined level, an area having said power between a first predetermined level and a second predetermined level, and an area constituting a valley between peaks in the case where the level of said power has a plurality of peaks.

7.     (Withdrawn)     A target detection system according to claim 2,

wherein said processing unit extracts the peak position of the power of the signal output from said radar, checks the density change, on the left and right sides of said peak position, of the image data output from said image acquisition unit, extracts the position where the density change ceases to be laterally symmetric, and specifies an area having a predetermined width about said extraction position as said image recognition area.

8.     (Withdrawn)     A target detection system according to claim 2,

wherein said processing unit extracts the peak position of the power of the signal output from said radar, examines the density projection value, on the left and right sides of said peak position, of the image data output from said image acquisition unit, extracts the position where the density projection value ceases to be laterally symmetric, and specifies an area having a predetermined width about said extraction position as said image recognition area.

9.     (Currently Amended) A     target     detection     system comprising:

a radar for scanning a specified area and outputting ~~signal of~~ a power signal corresponding to an object scanned;

an image acquisition unit for acquiring an image of said specified area; and

a processing unit for extracting the edge data from the image data output from said image acquisition unit, specifying an area of image recognition based on the power ~~of the~~ signal output from said radar, and detecting a target using those of said extracted edge data existing in said specified area.

10.    (Original)    A target detection system according to claim 9,

wherein said processing unit specifies an area having said power not less than a predetermined level as said image recognition area.

11.    (Withdrawn)    A target detection system according to claim 9,

wherein said processing unit specifies an area having said power between a first predetermined level and a second predetermined level as said image recognition area.

12.    (Withdrawn)    A target detection system according to claim 9,

wherein, in the case where the level of said power has a plurality of peaks, said processing unit specifies an area constituting a valley between the peaks as said image recognition area.

13.    (Withdrawn)    A target detection system according to claim 9,

wherein said processing unit specifies, as said image recognition area an area having said power not less than a predetermined level, an area having said power between a first predetermined level and a second predetermined level, and an area constituting a valley between peaks in the case where the level of said power has a plurality of the peaks.

14. (Withdrawn)   A target detection system comprising:

a radar for outputting a near flag in the state corresponding to the distance upon determination that a target exists in a near area;

an image acquisition unit for acquiring the image of a specified area; and

an image recognition unit for outputting edge data by processing the image data output from said image acquisition unit;

a processing unit for determining the state of the near flag output from said radar and detecting a target based on the edge data in the distance range corresponding to the state of said near flag among the edge data output from said image recognition unit.

15. (Withdrawn)   A target detection system comprising:

a radar for outputting a near flag in the state corresponding to the distance upon determination that a target exists in a near area;

an image acquisition unit for acquiring the image of a specified area;

an image recognition unit for acquiring edge data by processing the image data output from said image acquisition unit and, among said edge data, removing and outputting the edge data in the distance range corresponding to the state of the near flag output from a processing unit; and

a processing unit for determining the state of the near flag output from said radar, outputting the result thereof to said image recognition unit, and detecting a target based on the edge data output from said image recognition unit.

16. (Withdrawn)    A target detection system comprising:

a radar for outputting a near flag in the state corresponding to the distance upon determination that a target exists in a near area;

an image acquisition unit for acquiring the image of a specified area;

an image recognition unit for acquiring edge data by processing the image data output from said image acquisition unit and, among said edge data, performing the pattern matching processing in priority for the edge data within the distance range corresponding to the state of the near flag output from a processing unit, and outputting said edge data; and

a processing unit for determining the state of the near flag output from said radar, outputting the result thereof to said image recognition unit, and detecting a target based on the edge data output from said image recognition unit.

17. (Withdrawn)   A target detection system comprising:

a radar for outputting a near flag in the state corresponding to the distance upon determination that a target exists in a near area;

an image acquisition unit for acquiring the image of a specified area;

an image recognition unit for acquiring edge data by processing the image data output from said image acquisition unit and, among said edge data, outputting by attaching the road surface flag to the edge data identified as an edge of the road surface from the height information and the distance information obtained from said image data; and

a processing unit for determining the distance range corresponding to the state of the near flag output from said radar, invalidating the edge data output from said image recognition unit and having said road surface flag attached thereto, in the case where the distance information of said edge data with said road surface flag attached thereto indicates a near distance and said determined distance range indicates a far distance, and performing said target detection process based on the remaining edge data.

18. (Withdrawn)   A target detection system comprising:

a radar for outputting distance information;

an image acquisition unit for acquiring the image of a specified area;

an image recognition unit for acquiring edge data by processing the image data output from said image acquisition

-8-

unit and, among said edge data, outputting by attaching the road surface flag to the edge data identified as an edge of the road surface based on the height information and the distance information obtained from said image data; and

a processing unit for determining whether the distance information of the edge data output from said image recognition unit and having said road surface flag attached thereto is within the allowable error range of the distance information acquired from said radar, in the case where said edge data the case where said edge data with said road surface flag attached thereto indicates a far distance, and invalidates said edge data and performs the target detection process based on the remaining edge data in the case where said distance information is not within said allowable error range.

19. (Withdrawn) A target detection system comprising:

a radar for outputting a near flag in the state corresponding to the distance upon determination that a target exists in a near area;

an image acquisition unit for acquiring the image of a specified area;

an image recognition unit for acquiring edge data by processing the image data output from said image acquisition unit and, among said edge data, outputting by attaching a letter flag to the edge data identified as a letter on the road surface based on the density information obtained from said image data; and

-9-

a processing unit for determining the distance range corresponding to the state of the near flag output from said radar, invalidating the edge data output from said image recognition unit and having said letter flag attached thereto in the case where the distance information of the edge data with said letter flag attached thereto indicates a near distance and said determined distance range indicates a far distance, and performing said target detection process based on the remaining edge data.

20. (Withdrawn) A target detection system comprising
a radar for outputting distance information;
an image acquisition unit for acquiring the image of a specified area;
an image recognition unit for acquiring edge data by processing the image data output from said image acquisition unit and, among said edge data, outputting by attaching a letter flag to the edge data identified as a letter on the road surface based on the density information obtained from said image data; and
a processing unit for determining whether the distance information of the edge data output from said image recognition unit and having said letter flag attached thereto is within the allowable error range of the distance information acquired from said radar, in the case where said distance information of the edge data with said letter flag attached thereto indicates a far distance, and invalidating said edge data and performing the target detection process based on the remaining edge data in the

case where said distance information is not within said allowable range.

21. (Withdrawn)   A target detection system comprising:

a radar for outputting a near flag in the state corresponding to the distance upon determination that a target exists in a near area;

an image acquisition unit for acquiring the image of a specified area;

an image recognition unit for acquiring edge data by processing the image data output from said image acquisition unit and, among said edge data, outputting by attaching a road surface flag to the edge data identified as a letter on the road surface based on the height information and the distance information obtained from said image data, and also by attaching a letter flag to the edge data identified as a letter on the road surface based on the density information; and

a processing unit for determining the distance range corresponding to the state of the near flag output from said radar, and invalidating the edge data output from said image recognition unit and having at least one of said road surface flag and said letter flag attached thereto, in the case where the distance information of said edge data having at least one of said road surface flag and said letter flag attached thereto indicates a near distance and said determined distance range indicates a far distance, and performing said target detection process based on the remaining edge data.

22.  (Withdrawn)     A target detection system comprising:

a  radar  for  outputting  a  near  flag  in  the  state corresponding to the distance upon determination that a target exists in a near area;

an  image  acquisition  unit  for  acquiring  the  image  of  a specified area;

an  image  recognition  unit  for  acquiring  edge  data  by processing  the  image  data  output  form  said  image  acquisition unit and, among said edge data, outputting by attaching a road surface flag to the edge data identified as a letter on the road surface  based  on  the  height  information  and  the  distance information obtained from said image data and also by attaching a  letter  flag  to  the  edge  data  identified  as  a  letter  on  the road surface based on the density information; and

a  processing  unit  for  determining  whether  the  distance information of the edge data output from said image recognition unit and having at least one of said road surface flag and said letter flag attached thereto is within the allowable error range of the distance data obtained from said radar, in the case where the distance information of said edge data having at least one of said road surface flag and said letter flag attached thereto indicates a far distance, and invalidating said edge having at least  one  of  said  road  surface  flag  and  said  letter  flag attached thereto and performing said target detection process based  on  the  remaining  edge  data,  in  the  case  where  said distance information is not within said allowable error range.

23. (New)    A target detection system comprising:

means for scanning a particular area and outputting power signals in response;

means for acquiring image data associated with the particular area;

means for identifying a portion of the particular area for which a power signal having at least a threshold magnitude is output;

means for assigning the identified portion as a search area; and

means restricting extraction of edge image data to the search area.

24. (New)    The target detection system of claim 23, wherein the identified portion is a portion smaller than the whole particular area.

25. (New)    A target detection system comprising:

a radar scanning a particular area and outputting power signals in response;

an image acquisition unit acquiring image data associated with the particular area; and

a processing unit identifying a portion of the particular area for which a power signal having at least a threshold magnitude is output, the processing unit further assigning the identified portion as a search area and restricting extraction of edge image data to the search area.

26.   (New)      The target detection system of claim 25, wherein the identified portion is a portion smaller than the whole particular area.

27.   (New)      A target detection system comprising:

a radar scanning a particular area and outputting power signals in response;

an image acquisition unit acquiring image data associated with the particular area; and

a processing unit identifying a portion of the particular area for which a power signal having at least a threshold magnitude is output, the processing unit further assigning the identified portion as a search area, extracting edge data from the image data acquired for the search area, and detecting a target based on the edge data.

28.   (New)      The target detection system of claim 27, wherein the portion is a portion smaller than the whole particular area.